

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Little Snake Field Office
455 Emerson Street
Craig, CO 81625-1129

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

NUMBER: CO-100-2006-007 CER

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC58543

PROJECT NAME: HCE Properties Limited Partnership LLLP Assignment

PLANNING UNIT: Management Unit 1, Eastern Yampa River

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T.5N., R.91W., section 32, lot 4, 6th PM, Moffat County, CO

APPLICANT: HCE Properties Limited Partnership LLLP

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: HCE Properties Limited Partnership LLLP has filed an application for assignment from Thomas and Susan Mikesell transferring access road right-of-way COC58543.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: Little Snake Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision

Date Approved: April 26, 1989

Decision Number/Page: pages 37, 38

Decision Language: The management objectives for this unit are to provide for the development of coal and oil and gas resources. The development of other resource uses/values within this unit is allowed consistent with the management objectives for coal, oil and gas resources. Realty actions, such as rights-of-way, leases, and permits, can occur.

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 516 DM 6, Appendix 5.4, Number: E. (9). None of the following exceptions in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2, apply.

- | Exclusion | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----------|
| 1. Have significant adverse effects on public health and safety. | ___ | <u>X</u> |
| 2. Have adverse effects on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; | | |

- national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands, floodplains; national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. _____ X
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources. _____ X
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. _____ X
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. _____ X
6. Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. _____ X
7. Have adverse effects on properties listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places. _____ X
8. Have adverse effects on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species. _____ X
9. Have the potential to violate a Federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. _____ X
10. Have the potential for a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. _____ X
11. Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. _____ X
12. Significantly, contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species. _____ X

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Area of Responsibility</u>	<u>Initials</u>
Hal Keesling	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources	HK 10/24/05
Hunter Seim	Rangeland Mgmt Spec	T&E Plants	HS 10/24/05
Tim Novotny	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Animals	TN 10/24/05

COMPLIANCE PLAN : Compliance of field stipulations will be field checked every five years by the realty specialist.

REMARKS : There will be no change in the terms, conditions, and stipulations of the grant. The right-of-way is in compliance, rental is current, and the processing fee has been paid.

NAME OF PREPARER: /s/ Louise McMinn

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: /s/ Duane Johnson

DATE: 10/24/05

DECISION AND RATIONALE: I have reviewed this CER and have decided to implement the proposed action.

This action is listed in the Department Manual (516 DM 6, Appendix 5) as an action that may be categorically excluded. I have evaluated the action relative to the 12 criteria listed above and have determined that it does not represent an exception and is, therefore, categorically excluded from further environmental analysis.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL: /s/Jerome D Strahan
For John E. Husband, Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 10/24/05